

STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 99-185

June 6, 2000

MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Investigation of Retail Electric Transmission
Services and Jurisdictional Issues

ORDER APPROVING
RATE CHANGE (CMP)

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

On May 31, 2000, Central Maine Power Company (CMP or Company) filed certain terms and conditions which would implement a price change in a way that does not increase overall rates for customers. On June 2, 2000, the Company filed a revised tariff to reflect the fact that the transmission revenue requirement had increased by approximately \$7.4 million since March 1, 2000 rather than \$3.0 million as originally proposed. The Company filed a second revision on June 5, 2000 to correct certain errors that had been made in the calculation of certain distribution charges for transmission level customers.

Under CMP's proposal, total T&D rates will remain as currently filed. Therefore, at this time there will not be any bill impacts resulting from the transmission rate changes for distribution level customers. For transmission level customers, the on-peak demand charge of the distribution rates has been decreased to offset the increase in transmission revenue requirements for those classes. In the case of non-winter rates, the kWh charges have also been decreased. This rate design methodology was utilized by the Company in order to keep rates unchanged overall and to avoid setting negative distribution rates. Individual subtransmission and transmission-level customers may see minor bill impacts with this June 1, 2000 change.

We believe the goal of maintaining overall rates at current levels, despite the rather significant increase in CMP's transmission revenue requirements, is appropriate. We, therefore, find the CMP decrease in distribution rates to be just and reasonable. We also find that it is in ratepayers' interests to effectuate this decrease on less than 30 days' notice and for service provided on or after June 1, 2000. We thus approve the Company's June 5, 2000 proposed revision to Term and Condition 44, effective June 1, 2000, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. §§ 307 and 309. Our decision here does not constitute a finding of the justness and reasonableness of the transmission rate increase nor does it constitute an approval of the revenue requirement treatment of the revenue lost as a result of CMP's decrease in its distribution rates.

Accordingly, it is

O R D E R E D

That Central Maine Power Company's proposed changes to Term and Condition 44, and Revised Rate Schedules: LGS-ST-TOU; LGS-T-TOU; SB-LGS-ST; SB-LGS-T, filed on June 5, 2000, copies of which are attached hereto, is hereby approved for the service provided to customers on or after June 1, 2000.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 6th day of June, 2000.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR: Welch
 Nugent
 Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 73, et seq.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.